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THE FRONTLINE

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June 5, 2008



**Corkan open
for summer
adventure**
See Page 1C

MG Lynch to get 3rd star

Kevin Larson
Chief, Public Information

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch has been nominated for appointment to the rank of Lt. Gen. and assignment as Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas.

Lynch took command of the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, June 13, 2006. He is currently serving as Commanding General, 3rd

Infantry Division and served as the commander of Multi-National Division - Center, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Baghdad, Iraq.

Lynch returned home from Iraq June 2.

Major General Anthony A. Cucolo III, Chief of Public Affairs, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Washington, D.C., will take command of the 3rd Inf. Div., Stewart-Hunter later this summer.

3ID set to uncase colors June 6

Kevin Larson
Chief, Public Information

The 3rd Infantry Division will uncase Colors 9 a.m., June 6 in a ceremony followed by the dedication of the new headquarters building.

Uncasing the Division's Colors
See COLORS

symbolizes the return of the headquarters from its 15-month deployment to southern Baghdad, Iraq.

The colors will be unfurled in Marne Garden by Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the 3rd Inf. Div., and Division Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews.

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Stewart-Hunter to host NCO/SoY competition

Special to the Frontline

Fort Stewart has been selected as the host installation for the 2008 Installation Command – South East Region Soldier, Noncommissioned officer of the Year Board June 23-26.

Events will be held all around
See COMPETITION

Fort Stewart and end with a board at Club Stewart.

The competition will consist of an Army Physical Fitness Test, a written essay, hands-on warrior tasks, M4/M16 rifle qualification, a day land navigation course, a 12-mile ruck march, and not to mention a board appearance.

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Kaytrina Curtis

Third Infantry Division Commander Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch and Command Sergeant Major Jessie Andrews wave to the welcoming committee at Hunter Army Airfield as the Division staff arrived June 2, following a 15-month deployment to Iraq. As they greet the crowd, Moreen Casey, Directorate of Logistics unit movement coordinator, leaves the ramp to facilitate their departure to Fort Stewart. See Page 2A.

385th Military Police changes command



Sgt. Tanya Polk

Col. John F. Garrity, commander of the 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne), passes the Colors to Lt. Col. Michael C. Henshaw signifying the change in leadership for the 385th Military Police Battalion during a Change of Command ceremony at Fort Stewart's Marne Garden, May 29. Henshaw assumes command from Lt. Col. Donna Martin (right) who moves on as the 3rd Infantry Division's Inspector General. See Page 13A.

WTB finance: Services to help you save money

Lina Satele
Public Affairs Specialist

Warriors in Transition have many dedicated services in the Soldier and Family Assistance Center on Fort Stewart to assist them. The SFAC provides many services to Warriors in Transition that are housed in close proximity to where these Soldiers live and work. One of these services is the finance office headed by Alphonso

Ramsey, SFAC Finance Management supervisor.

"We are a one-stop shop, per se, area where we assist Warriors in transition and their Family members," said Ramsey. "We help Family members process their paperwork such as their travel vouchers when they accompany their Soldiers during their medical appointments to Walter Reed or Fort Gordon to Eisenhower Army Medical Center."

See FINANCE **Page 7A**

Army Family Covenant enhances chapel programs

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

In November 2007, the Army Family Covenant was signed by the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff with a mission of improving the quality of life for Soldiers, their Families and communities. Also in November 2007, Fort Stewart's new Main Post Chapel was

dedicated with a mission of providing religious services to the community as well as a place where the community can meet for non-religious occasions.

According to Stewart's new main post Chaplain (Lt. Col.) R. Gary Moore, funds and support generated from the Covenant have allowed for extensive chapel renovations and greatly enhanced chapel services.

See COVENANT **Page 4A**

Marne 6 Sends

Remembering Ware - the legacy endures with the effort of heroes

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

It feels good to be home - I am so very thankful for everyone in the Fort Stewart/Hinesville and Hunter Army Airfield/Savannah community for taking care of our Soldiers and their Families, and for the absolutely tremendous welcome home I received on Monday.

Tomorrow, Command Sgt. Maj. Jessie Andrews and I uncase the Division Colors, signifying the return of the Division Headquarters. While the 1st Brigade Combat Team, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, and the Division Headquarters have redeployed, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Fourth Brigade Combat Team, Combat Aviation Brigade, and Sustainment Brigade

are still deployed. We keep them and all Dog Face Soldiers in our prayers.

Tomorrow, we also dedicate the new 3rd Infantry Division Headquarters building in honor of Medal of Honor Recipient Keith L. Ware.

In the 3rd Infantry Division, we are blessed with 51 Medal of Honor recipients from Audie Murphy to Paul Smith, and Ware is one of those magnificent heroes. Ware was drafted into the Army in World War II and sent to Officer Candidate School where he rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel only two years later. He command-



ed the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment in the 3rd Division in Germany during one of the last campaigns.

When his battalion was attacking a fortified German hilltop position, one of the assault companies stalled under heavy fire. Ware went forward past their position and made a close reconnaissance of the German positions. He deliberately drew their fire in order to determine their location. After two hours, he returned to the company and brought back a small force of 11 men and one tank in order to renew the attack. He personally led this attack and disabled four

machinegun positions before securing the hill. Five of the 11 men became casualties, and Ware was also wounded. For his action in this engagement, he was awarded the Medal of Honor in April 1945.

Unlike most draftees, Ware remained in the Army after demobilization and became one of the first draftees to rise to the rank of major general when he commanded the 1st Infantry Division during Vietnam where he was killed in action when his helicopter was shot down over the Cambodian border.

The 3rd Infantry Division has many more heroes like Ware - many of them are deployed right now - but tomorrow we remember Ware and the courageous example he set for all Dog Face Soldiers.

Rock of the Marne!

Moments in Marne History - 3rd Inf Div returns

Pat Young
Managing Editor

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch and the 3rd Infantry Division headquarters were welcomed home at Fort Stewart, June 2, following a 15-month deployment to Iraq.

More than 1,000 Soldiers, Family members and well-wishers welcomed home about 260 Soldiers of the Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, who were on the flight with the general. The division headquarters was the lead element for Task Force Marne.

Helping entertain the crowd and boost morale, representatives from the 3rd Inf. Div. band were led by Chief Warrant Officer Stephen Campbell in a number of patriotic and jazzy tunes.

The entire mood of the event was festive and charged with emotion. Several Family members in attendance spoke about their Soldiers.

Waiting for Staff Sgt. James Stutz, Kim and Alyssa Stutz, 14, said they looked forward to resuming things they enjoyed doing togeth-

er, visiting Keller's Markets, movies, Friday night game-night, and similar Family activities. And although she's overjoyed with her father's return, Alyssa added she wasn't looking forward to resuming her driving lessons with the stick shift.

"This was his fourth deployment," Kim said. "It will be nice to have him home for a while."

That thought was shared by many Family members present, including Ann Howell, who waited for her Soldier, Sgt. Marquis Howell. She said they planned on taking their children, Bryan, 9; Marian, 7; and Chase, 2 on vacation to Disney World. But for Marian, he said he couldn't wait to play catch with his father.

The Soldiers first arrived at the Division Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group at Hunter Army Airfield and were met by a garrison team, and others to prepare them for their trip back home to Fort Stewart.

One of the groups that met them at Hunter with more than 50 motorcyclist were members of the Patriot Guard and Marne Riders Association, who escorted the

Soldiers to Stewart.

The redeploying Soldiers stepped onto Cottrell Field to the thunderous applause of those in attendance. The arrival was broadcast live and displayed on a Jumbo-tron display truck. As they marched across the field, the cheers became deafening, the band kicked in with patriotic music and smiles could be seen on the returning Soldiers faces as they crossed the field.

Lynch kept his speech short and noted he was just excited to be back as his Soldiers. He said people can either read about history or help make it.

"By God, we made history over the last 15 months," Lynch said, then addressed Family and community members. "We couldn't have done it without your support."

Following Lynch's welcome and singing the National Anthem, the Marne Song and the Army Song accompanied by the 3rd Inf. Div. Band, the Family members and

friends rushed from the parade field's reviewing stands to greet their Soldiers.

About 780 Soldiers from the STB have come home as of June 2. Additional Soldiers returned June 4. See next week's edition of The Frontline for photos.



Pat Young

Above: Sgt. Jason McElveen boosted morale, along with other members of the 3rd Inf. Div. Band at the 3rd Inf. Div. welcome home ceremony, June 2.

Left: Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general, and about 260 Soldiers from the division's STB marched onto Cottrell Field and were welcomed home by about 1,000 cheering attendees at an installation welcome home ceremony, June 2.



Randy Murray

The welcome home ceremony for the returning 3rd Inf. Div. STB, was attended by about 1,000 people, including Family members, Soldiers, and well-wishers from local and distant communities. Families waved American flags and cheered loudly as the troops marched onto the field from their 15-month deployment to Iraq.

Do you have what it takes?



Photos by Sgt. Tanya Polk

Above: From Left: Sgt. Daniel Fry, and Spc. Andy Gibson improve their muscular strength and endurance with Log PT during a physical training session offered by Fort Stewart's Special Forces recruiting team. This training among others is conducted in an effort to mentally and physically prepare Soldiers to attend the Special Forces Assesment and Selection class held at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Right: Spc. Nathan Dobnack, crane operator with the 92nd Engineers (right), signs a volunteer statement as Special Forces Recruiter Sgt. 1st Class Richard Villeneuve looks on at the Special Forces Recruiting Station on Fort Stewart. Dobnack was selected to train for Special Forces, May 20 at Fort Bragg, N.C. He leaves for Airborne School in October.

Marne Soldier selected for US Special Forces

Sgt. Tanya Polk
Editor

Specialist Nathan Dobnack said he always wanted to join the Special Forces, even prior to his enlistment into the United States Army in October 2005.

“But at that time my (general technical) score wasn’t high enough, so I had to go with another (military occupational specialty),” the 21-year-old Dansville, N.Y. native said.

Dobnack chose to be a crane operator and served with the 92nd Engineer Battalion on Fort Stewart. And although deploying with his unit in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom was an important mission he will never forget, he wanted to do something “much greater” for his country and for his Family.

“(Special Forces) is a different kind of Soldiery- one with a higher caliber,” he said. “I just wanted to do something that later on in the Dobnack line, somebody could say ‘there’s a Family member that was a part of the elite Soldiery.’”

Special Forces, also known as “the Green Berets” is an elite, multi-purpose force designed for high priority tactical and operational targets and strategic initiatives. Special Forces missions often require rapid and discrete responses to unique situations throughout the world. In the nation’s defense, SF Soldiers are normally the first on the ground at a crisis location. Experts at unconventional warfare, SF Soldiers train and organize indigenous forces and foreign militaries in support of U.S. national objectives.

“(Special Forces is) a group of men who all have the same vision,” Dobnack said. “They get the opportunity to be Warriors and teachers at the same time. I just want to be part of that close-net brotherhood.”

Dobnack teamed up with Fort Stewart’s Special Forces recruiting team who helped him raise his GT score to 110, providing him the

opportunity to go for his dream.

“The window of opportunity opened up for me, and of course I took it,” he said.

Additionally, SF recruiters helped prepare Dobnack for Special Forces Assessment and Selection - a two week course at Fort Bragg, N.C. where Soldiers prove their capabilities to advance to the Special Forces Qualification Course- through an intense physical training program. In this PT program, Dobnack underwent similar Special Forces training such as walking nine-mile ruck marches while carrying at least a 60-pound ruck sack at a 15-minute per mile pace, enhancing muscular strength and endurance by lifting tree trunks (Log PT) and brushing up on land navigation skills.

When a SFAS class opened up May 5, Dobnack and nine other Green Beret hopefuls from Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield tried their hand at being selected. On May 20, only three Stewart-Hunter Soldiers were selected to advance. Dobnack was one of them.

Dobnack said the physical training program the SF recruiters gave him helped him get selected.

“I also prepared myself,” he said, adding that he trained at any opportunity he had for the month prior to SFAS.

Dobnack leaves for Airborne School in October, and afterward he moves to the SFQC. He said he wants to be a Special Forces engineer.

When asked if he felt he had what it takes to pass the qualification course and become a part of the elite Special Forces, Dobnack said, “Just like with selection, I’m going to give it everything I got. You have to have the heart, the passion, the drive and the grace of God.”

If you are interested in Special Forces, contact the Fort Stewart Special Forces Recruiters at 767-1400 or stop by the SF office located in building 160.



Rangers wow beachgoers with special ops training

Kaytrina Curtis
Hunter Public Affairs

It’s not a bird or a plane, but it was the Rangers who came to roost on Tybee Island, to the amazement of Family members and beachgoers along the coast.

More than 150 Rangers and approximately 40 aviators of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, U.S. Army Special Operations Forces conducted a routine airborne operation off of Tybee Island, May 28. Soldiers jumped from Chinooks provided by the 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, into the 77 degree Atlantic Ocean. The training exercises are conducted with the 160th SOAR routinely throughout the year to maintain a high level of readiness for both units.

“Although we may not need to jump into water or jump into the ocean, we train for any possible scenario,” said Capt. Chad Maddox 1/75 Ranger Regt. “All the Soldiers have been trained to ensure that they are safe when they are swimming out there and know how to get out their equipment.”

Onlookers watched as rescue boats sat out on the water awaiting the Ranger’s descent into the ocean from above. Seventeen-year-old Jeremy Lee, an onlooker from Gainesville, Ga., said he received a greater appreciation of

what the Army is capable of accomplishing after witnessing the jump.

“I think they have really big guts to jump from that high,” he said.

The Rangers are provided this opportunity to train for reinforced water safety procedures and to practice water landings. Tybee Island was chosen as the training platform due to the realism and greater training value it added to the Rangers and Special Operations aviators who participate in the routine airborne operations.

“Today is just an awesome opportunity for guys to have a good training experience and fun at the same time,” 1st Sgt. David Bannerman said.

Army Special Operations Forces must be ready to support potential missions anywhere in the world on a moment’s notice.

“It’s more than just a training event for us to maintain our readiness,” Maddox said. “It shows that we able to effectively work with other Army units in combined efforts for joint operations and its just fun for the guys to get to go out and do something different.”

The support of the residents and citizens



Kaytrina Curtis

Rangers with the 1/75 Ranger Regiment, based out of Hunter Army Airfield, return to shore after jumping from Chinooks during a routine training exercise at Tybee Island, May 28.

was greatly appreciated by the Rangers. “We want to make sure that they know that we are conducting safe training and what we are doing wont impact them negatively in any way,” Maddox said.

“We hope that they just have a good time

just watching all the guys jump out of the helicopters.”

The words of a smiling Bannerman summed up the day for many Rangers coming to shore after their jump, “It’s a great day to be a Ranger,” he said.

101 Critical Days of Summer safety tip - share the road

Bob Van Elsberg
U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala. – The Army remains steadfast in its commitment to foster an environment of responsible motorcycle riding by providing Soldiers the education and tools to help prevent accidents and stay safe on the road.

One aspect of motorcycle safety, however, is often beyond riders’ control.

“We teach Soldiers the skills to ride safely and tell them what to wear to protect themselves physically, but, unfortunately, we cannot protect them from distracted or inattentive motorists,” said Lt. Col. Roy Templin, driving task force chief, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics indicate motorcycle fatalities nationwide have more than doubled during the last 10 years.

According to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, more than half of all fatal motorcycle accidents involve another vehicle. Most of the time, the motorist, not the motorcyclist is at fault.

To help educate non-motorcyclists, the MSF developed *www.forcardrivers.com*, a Web site designed for motorists to enhance traffic safety.

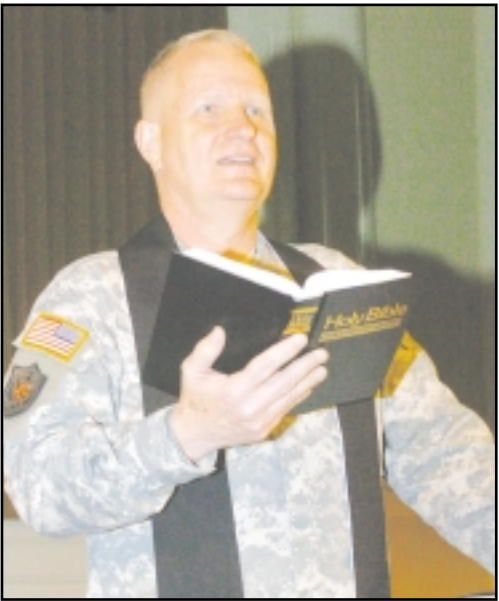
The site offers tips such as, Ten Things All Car and Truck Drivers Should Know About Motorcycles, and provides video downloads to help car drivers learn how to safely share the road with motorcyclists.

“This information helps build

motorcycle awareness among the non-riding community and emphasizes the importance of sharing the road,” said Templin. “Teaching drivers to be more aware of motorcycle traffic is as important as Soldiers practicing safe riding skills and will ultimately save lives.”

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield holds regular Motorcycle Safety Courses at building 727 on Stewart for the classroom portion of the Basic Riders Course and building 1201 at Hunter.

For more information, call 727-7425. Anyone desiring to sign up for the motorcycle classes needs to call the above number or show up in person. For more information on the 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign and Army’s Motorcycle Mentorship Program, visit *crc.army.mil*.



Randy Murray
Wearing his ceremonial “stole,” Stewart main post Chaplain (Lt. Col.) R. Gary Moore extrapolates from a passage in the Book of Psalms.

COVENANT

Older chapels at Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield have been or are being upgraded or rebuilt.

There have been manpower increases, approval for a new Youth Ministry Center, approval for a new installation chaplain’s administrative annex and an electronic marquee for religious services at the main post chapel.

Moore, a jumpmaster-qualified chaplain, accepted responsibility for the main post chapel from Chaplain (Col.) Ron Hill, June 2. He appreciates all the improvements to other post chapels, which he said reflects a commitment to religious support for Soldiers and their Family members. Moore is particularly proud of the services and uses at the Main Post Chapel.

“The main post chapel has really blossomed,” he said. “We have two new congregations – a Roman Catholic congregation that meets at (5 p.m.) on Saturdays and (9 a.m.) on Sundays and a Gospel congregation – they do something almost every night of the week, in addition to Sunday services.”

Moore said the Catholic congregation’s Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Allen Stahl will be replaced Sunday by Chaplain (Maj.) James Sheil. On June 1, Chaplain (Maj.) Melton Johnson participated in a “changing of the stole” ceremony with his replacement, Chaplain (Maj.) Valiant Lyte. Similar to a change of command ceremony where a guidon is exchanged, the

from Page 1A

“changing of the stole” involved Moore accepting the stole, a colorful scarf worn by some members of the “cloth,” from Johnson then passing it to Lyte.

In addition to religious services, the main post chapel is used by the installation for a variety of non-religious gatherings, like reintegration training or the Community Covenant that will be signed at the main post chapel, July 11 at 2 p.m. Moore said his staff plans to open up the chapel’s back rooms for this event and set up enough chairs for 1,000 people. The Main Post Chapel was built to hold 600 people.

A reception will be held at Club Stewart following the Community Covenant signing.

A more typical, spiritual use of the main post chapel is planned for June 12 at 8 a.m. with a special service of “Praise and Thanks,” which will take place just before the Tree Dedication ceremony at Warrior’s Walk.

According to figures maintained by chaplain’s assistant, Sgt. Thomas Miller, since the Main Post Chapel was dedicated in November 2007, more than 75,000 people have attended chapel or non-religious services there.

“The chapel is still a chapel – worship services, weddings and funerals,” Moore explained, emphasizing the quality of life issues covered by the Army Family Covenant also include religious services. “The chapel is a sanctuary for the community.”

Correction to the Frontline



Lawrence Dorsey
Thirty-seven Soldiers from the 214th Field Artillery, Georgia National Guard returned home, May 23 from a 12-month deployment supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.
Editors Note: Photographer’s credit for a photo run on Page 3A, May 29 was given to Pat Young. It should have been Lawrence Dorsey.

Winn encourages community members to learn airway ABC’s

Lt. Col. Angela Quintanilla
Chief , Anesthesia and Operative Services

In first aid and emergency medicine, everyone is taught the A in the ABC is “airway.” Establishing a patient’s airway and delivering oxygen is the first step in any medical emergency in the hospital or in the deployed environment. All medics, nurses and physicians are trained in airway management, but rarely do they get a change for hands on experience. Although one might think it is easy to do, establishing an open airway can be challenging and, without a doubt is the single most important life saving skill.

As an experienced Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Maj. Donald Kimbler knows first hand how difficult it can be. Understanding the need to educate providers at all levels, Kimbler organized and presented Winn Army Community Hospital’s first Difficult Airway seminar.

The four hour Difficult Airway seminar presented a complete approach to establishing an airway. The course consisted of didactic training and hands on training. Medics, nurses and physicians were given the opportunity to do a “live” cricothyrotomy using pig tracheas as well as practice the latest alternative airway devices such as the laryngeal mask airway and glidescope. As a result of this training, providers were able to practice this critical skill and earn credit at the same time. More than 50 medical providers were trained during the seminar and 200 continuing medical education credits were awarded.

Kimble is a Staff CRNA at Winn and is currently attending Intermediate Level Education. He will begin his PhD program this fall at the Medical College of Georgia.

Editors Note: See further medical advice in Health Matters, pages 8B, 9B.

Marne Voices Speak Out

Do you have any comments for returning troops?

“Welcome back; food’s on the grill, beer’s in the fridge.”

Spc. Rusty Bittner
92nd Eng.



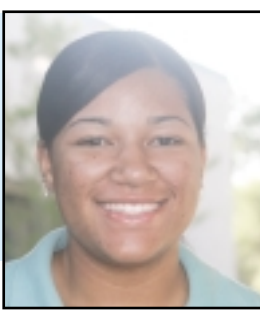
To her husband:
“Job well done. If we can get through a 15-month tour, we can get through anything.”

Jennifer Elliott
Family member



“Welcome back; its amazing what you do over there.”

Jenai Panther
Family member



“Welcome home. Thank you for the hard work and dedication to our country.”

Capt. Amy Barnes
WTB

“Thanks for the hard work and dedication. Anything you need, we’re here for you.”

Staff Sgt. David Dicks
DENTAC



“Welcome home. We missed you. We love you. Job well done.”

Charlotte Long
Family member



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2nd BCT plants seeds of success

Sgt. David Turner
2nd BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – After nearly a year in Iraq as the last of the “surge brigades,” the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, has seen the south Baghdad area transformed from insurgent stronghold to model of peace and security. The gains made in security may not hold, however, unless citizens of this area are able to successfully continue their way of life. In the 2nd BCT’s area of operations, that mostly means agriculture.

Mike Stevens, a U.S. Department of Agriculture representative and agriculture adviser for the U.S. Dept. of State’s Baghdad-7 embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team, put it simply: “If you feed the people, they can concentrate on their other needs, and thus it becomes a more peaceful area.”

In the wake of combat operations that drove al-Qaeda out of the area, 2nd BCT Soldiers began looking to the needs of citizens. Programs were started to repair infrastructure and revitalize local governments and businesses. One of the first such programs was aimed at farmers. Armed with vegetable seeds and plastic, Soldiers distributed the materials to farmers eager to plant new crops.

Stevens recalled that when he began his work with the ePRT in October, many parts of the area were still dangerous.

“At that time, we had only five percent of our area we could travel in and the rest was too kinetic to move into,” Stevens recalled. “As we focused on seed distributions, it got farmers farming, rather than putting [improvised explosive devices] on the road. It was a kind of domino effect. Wherever we did these distributions we saw a decrease in

IED activity and an increase in farming,” he said.

Stevens credited 2nd BCT Soldiers with doing the hard work to get farms back on their feet. He relied on Soldiers patrolling the area to identify who the key figures in the area were and what they needed.

“They had everything to do with revitalization in the agricultural sector,” Stevens said. “I can attend the farmer’s union meetings, but I am not the guy out talking to the farmers ... They are the ones who identify all the crops being grown in the area. They are the ones who see that the seeds are getting distributed properly. They are the ones who are implementing the programs.”

One reason for focusing on vegetable farming was that years of war had ravaged the once-vibrant farming sector, with decreased supply driving market prices up. Already a net importer of food products, Iraq relied on imports of produce to meet people’s needs.

“It was horrible when I first got here,” Stevens said. “Traveling through Amman, [Jordan] telling people what I do, they pleaded with me to do something about the food situation in Iraq, because prices had been through the roof,” he said.

Reliance on produce imports had another negative aspect, Stevens said.

“We know arms get smuggled in with vegetables,” he said. “The first concentrated effort was on vegetable production so we could slow down imports from other countries.”

The Soldiers flooded the area with tomato, green pepper, eggplant and cucumber seeds. They also gave out plastic, used to make shelters which trap moisture in the warm, arid climate. The effort is already producing results.

“Just last week, I got a report from our

agriculture office in Baghdad that tomatoes, eggplants, cucumbers and green peppers have all seen a 25 percent decrease in price,” Stevens said.

Like other programs, Stevens described the seed distribution as a “kick start” to reinvigorate a once-thriving sector.

“[The farmers] were directed to save those input costs so they could continue to buy good seeds,” Stevens said. “You’ve got good-minded farmers in business now who know how to make a profit, and I see it continuing on.”

Seed distribution was only the beginning of the effort. Similar kick-start programs were begun with poultry and fish farming, both traditionally profitable forms of farming in the area. Using a combination of funds from the State Dept. and 2nd BCT’s Commander’s Emergency Response Program, fish farms and chicken coops were restocked. So far, \$75,000 of CERP funds have been spent on fish and poultry farms and more than \$73,000 of State Dept. Quick Reaction Funds have been spent on poultry farms alone.

Other programs have been aimed at assisting farmers in other areas of farming: \$20,000 in QRF for flooding orchards; \$8,500 in QRF for purchasing bee-keeping supplies; \$50,000 to repair irrigation canals and pumps. More recently, \$180,000 in CERP funds have been allocated to provide veterinary services for livestock.

Stevens stressed that the joint mission of the 2nd BCT and Baghdad-7 ePRT is more than just providing short-term assistance to farmers. For agriculture to thrive again, farmers are being encouraged to take agribusiness training and work with their local farmer’s unions.

There are currently seven farmers unions in the 2nd BCT’s area. The goal is to estab-

lish these farmers unions as non-governmental organizations which can generate profits, said Capt. Jeffrey Brizek, deputy agricultural adviser to the Baghdad-7 ePRT.

“We are working toward improving the farmer’s unions so they can develop business opportunities within their specific areas,” said Brizek, a Reading, Pa. native. “Then they can be a profit-generating organization and sustain themselves.”

One such business opportunity is the recent purchase of new tractors by farmer’s unions in South Rasheed and Arab Jabour. The nine tractors are being bought with loans from the Iraqi government’s Ministry of Agriculture and will be rented out to farmers in order to generate revenue for the unions.

“The MoA has made great strides since I’ve been here, especially with the development of their loan programs,” Brizek said. “It is proof that the government of Iraq is becoming more of a direct force with the local populace.”

The other key to sustaining the gains made in agriculture is educating farmer’s unions in agri-business. Representatives from all of the unions are attending seminars and some will take advanced agribusiness classes.

“It’s getting them thinking about the big picture, rather than just initial handouts like they’ve been used to for so many years,” Stevens said. “One farmer who has been to the training told us, ‘You’ve brought us out of the dark’. That light is starting to come on. Those trains of thought are going to make good businessmen out of these farmers.”

Stevens said the future of the ePRT’s mission is to step back and take an advisory role, letting local farmers work directly with their government.

Ft. Stewart/Hunter Morale, Welfare and Recreation

FS Kids Fishing Derby 7 June; 7-11am Cedar Bay Pond #30

Join Outdoor Recreation for a morning of fishing fun! Other activities include face painting, crafts & games, bait casting, fish cleaning station, and a Fish & Wildlife information booth. Open to children (ages 16 & under). No charge. License and post permit waived for the event. The HAAF Kids Fishing Derby will take place on 21 June from 8-11am at Halstrom Pond. More info to follow.
For more info call 767-4316 (FS)/ 315-5163 (HAAF).

2008 Hunter Golf Club Annual Club Championship 7-8 Jun, 7:30am Tee time Hunter Golf Club

This 36 hole event will be flighted after first 18 holes (Ladies, Open & Senior Divisions). Cost \$60 club members, \$70 active duty & retired Military (non-members), \$80 civilian guest. Entry fee includes tournament & golf car fees, tournament prizes and Sat lunch. For more info call 315-9115.

Junior Golf Camp

Taylors Creek Golf Course- 9-10 June; 10-11am
Hunter Golf Club- 16-17 June; 10-11am

Instruction will cover proper swing mechanics, golf rules, etiquette and more! Cost is \$25 per Junior (ages 7-14). Register by 8 June. For more info call 767-2370.

HAAF Garrison Commanders Golf Scramble 13 June; 8am, Shotgun Hunter Golf Club

Registration fee is \$40 members & \$45 non-members (include tournament fee, golf car, driving range balls, and (2) mulligan's). The first 25 (4) person teams will be accepted. Participation is open to all players. Registration deadline is 11 June. For more info call 315-9115.

Wild Adventures Field Trip 11 June; 10am FS Youth Center

Participants will depart the Youth Center for Valdosta, GA where they will enjoy a day of thrilling rides, great food, and much more. Open to children (ages 11-18). No charge for transportation, \$35 for park admission. For more info call 767-4491.

Father's Day Sunday Brunch 15 June; 10:30am - 1:30pm Club Stewart & Hunter Club

Menu features famous breakfast items, Omelet station, carving station w/ Pecan crusted Pork Loin with peach glaze, BBQ Chicken & Ribs, Baked beans, Corn on the cob, Collard greens, Potato salad, Salad bar, and Chocolate fountain w/toppings. Cost \$14.95 per person, children (ages 5-10) half price and (Under 5) FREE. Bring church bulletin & receive \$1.00 off each meal. Info: 368-2212 (FS)/ 353-7923 (HAAF).

Education Matters



New e-mail address provided for counselors

Need to reach your Fort Stewart/Hunter Army education counselors? Just e-mail: stewcounselor@conus.army.mil.

Take GED enrichment courses

General Educational Development diploma and adult education classes are offered in partnership with the Savannah Technical College Adult Education Program-Liberty County and the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center.

Veterans' Education Scholarship announced

The Fund for Veterans' Education will provide scholarships to help meet the cost associated with higher education for veterans from all branches of the U. S. Armed Forces who served in Afghanistan or Iraq since September 11, 2001 and who are now enrolled in college or vocational-technical school. Applicants should be enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate program of study at any accredited two-year or four-year institution, public or private, including technical schools for the Fall 2008 term. Scholarship recipients are selected primarily on the basis of financial need. In addition, length of military service (number of months and number of tours served) will be considered. For the application and full details, go to www.veteransfund.org. Applications must be postmarked by June 15.

College classes for Warriors offered

The Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith and Hunter Army Airfield education centers are supporting our Warriors in Transition by offering accelerated daytime college courses. The classes are being presented by Central Texas College and Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Additional types of courses may be added in future terms as long as interest prevails. To enroll, Warriors must sign up through the GoArmyEd portal online. Additional enrollment steps are required for ERAU. See your Soldier and Family Assistance Center education counselor, Bruce White, 767-3328 in building 12719, 777 East 10th Street-north, Fort Stewart or Fay Ward, education center counselor located in building 1290 at Hunter. Their hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also contact the counselors in building 100 at Stewart, 767-8331 for assistance.

Green-to-Gold briefing slated

The Green-to-Gold briefings are held at the installation education centers every month. On Stewart the briefings are 2 p.m., the first and third Thursday of each month. The Hunter briefings are 2 p.m., the second and fourth Thursday.

\$4,500 tuition available for Soldiers

All active duty members have \$4,500 per fiscal year for education. This entitlement is separate from the Montgomery GI Bill benefits available from the Veteran's Administration. Details are available at 1:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, during a

one-hour briefing at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center, room 223.

Troops-, Spouse-to-Teachers briefings slated

The Georgia Troops-to-Teachers Program provides federal funding to qualified servicemembers of up to \$10,000 for becoming public school teachers. Under the Spouse-to-Teachers Program, eligible military spouses may be reimbursed for the cost of state required certification tests up to a total of \$600. Future meetings are scheduled for 11 a.m., June 25, July 23 and Aug. 20 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. For more information, visit online at www.tttga.net and www.sttga.net or call 1-800-745-0709.

Apply for the Georgia HOPE grant

The HOPE Grant is money given by the state of Georgia to students with financial needs to attend vocational/trade schools. The grant covers certificate and diploma programs. Any Soldier or Family member of a Soldier who is stationed in Georgia may be eligible. If you are interested in attending a Georgia vocational or trade school, inquire with your school's financial advisor or visit the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center to speak with a counselor, or visit online at www.gsfc.org.

Take CLEP and DANTES exams

College Level Examination Program and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests are available on post. Call Columbia College at 877-3406 for more information and testing dates. The exams are free for military personnel. CLEP tests are \$85 and DSSTs are \$90 for non-military examinees.

Take GED enrichment courses

Graduation Equivalence Diploma and adult education classes are offered in partnership with the Liberty County Adult Education Program at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. The courses prepare you to take the GED exam or refresh your skills. The courses are free of charge. You can select from one of a number of dates and times, which are 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday; or 6 to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday in rooms 225 - 228. For more information, call 368-7322. To register for the classes, you must be present for both days of the process. First come, first serve. Call 368-7322 for complete details.

Free ESL classes offered

English as a Second Language courses are offered in conjunction with Savannah Technical College at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. Registration is every Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. in room 227. Beginning courses are taught Monday and Wednesday, 8 to 10 a.m., Intermediate courses are offered Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to noon, Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to noon. Call 368-7322 for more information.

Educate while you wait

College registration is ongoing for Savannah Tech. Term dates are July 7 to Sept. 19. Also, you can get your certificate or diploma and pursue your new career using the Georgia HOPE grant (www.gsfc.org). Certificates for Website Technician, Child Care Manager, Medical Transcription are a few of the eligible programs offered by Savannah Technical College, Airport Road in Hinesville. Of special interest to Family members may be the recently introduced Technical Communication Specialist certificate, which enables much of the curriculum to transfer to area colleges. Many required courses for certificates, diplomas, and degrees are also available at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. For more information go to www.savannahtech.edu or call 408-2430 at Stewart and the Liberty Campus at 408-3024.

New college degree programs announced

Both Central Texas College and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University are introducing new degree opportunities. CTC's Associate of Arts degree in teaching includes the education courses typically offered in the first two years of an education degree. Choices are available for early childhood up to high school concentrations.

The big bonus is that science lab classes will be held right in the education center at Fort Stewart. Information can be found at www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/aa_as_degrees.pdf or www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/deg_cert_req.pdf. CTC's science degree in homeland security and emergency management will prepare students for decision making and to implement and coordinate resources necessary for preparedness, response and recovery from disasters.

Information can be found at www.ctcd.edu/catalogs/2008_2009_CI/progs_of_study.pdf - scroll to "homeland security". For more information call 876-4045, at Stewart or 315-4090 at Hunter. ERAU's Associate of Arts degree in aircraft maintenance lets aircraft mechanics build on the skills and background they possess. This curriculum assists in preparing for the FAA's airframe and powerplant maintenance certificate exam. Information can be found at www.erau.edu/ec/academicrogs/eccoce/aircraft.html. The Master of Science in management candidates can choose from one of five areas of specialization to include aviation, logistics or general management. More information is available at www.erau.edu/ec/academicrogs/eccoce/msm.html. If interested, call 315-4090 at Hunter or 876-4045 at Stewart.

Free college course offered

Columbia College Spouse's Opportunity Scholarship provides spouses of military personnel a tuition waiver for an initial classroom course with Columbia College at both the Stewart and Hunter education center sites.

The active duty spouse does not have to take classes with Columbia College. This is a value of \$450, which is the cost of Columbia's three-credit hour classroom course. Call 877-3406 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter for more information.



Looking for employment?

Opportunities for permanent employment are available in non-appropriated funds - Morale, Welfare, and Recreation jobs at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The following are positions with frequent vacancies. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Child and Youth Program Assistant (entry skill, and target levels), \$10.39 to \$12.73 per hour

Recreation Aid - \$5.85 - \$7 per hour

Operations Assistant - \$5.85 to \$8 per hour

Cook - \$8.70 per hour

Hotel Desk Clerk - \$7 to \$7.50 per hour

Cashier - \$8 per hour

Custodial Worker - \$7.72 per hour

Waiter/Waitress (Trainee) - \$7.17 to \$8.17 per hour

Food Service Worker - \$7.17 per hour

Bartender - \$8.70 per hour

Laborer - \$7.72 per hour

Recreation Assistant (Lifeguard) \$9.75 - \$10.25 per hour (Must possess nationally recognized Lifeguard, CPR, and First Aid Certifications), Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, closing date: Aug. 29.

To search for these positions go to cpol.army.mil, click on Employment, click on Search for Jobs at the bottom of the page under Search-Announcement type in SCNAFDW% then click on "Get Announcement" or hit the enter key.

This will narrow your search to the Fort Stewart/Hunter NAF vacancies.

Instructions on how to apply are on each announcement.

For federal employment opportunities, go to www.usajobs.opm.gov.

For further information on employment opportunities, contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Job Information Center at

767-5051.

Our office is located on the 2nd floor (room 2013A) of building 253, Soldier Support Center, 55 Pony Soldier Avenue. The hours of operations are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Additional NAF vacancies

Recreation Assistant (lifeguard), \$9.75 - \$10.25 per hour (Must possess nationally recognized lifeguard, CPR, and first aid certifications); duty locations include Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The closing date is Aug. 29.

Customer Services Relations Assistant, \$8 per hour, Fort Stewart. The closing date is Aug. 29.

Did you know?

• You don't have to be a U.S. Citizen to be employed by NAF

• Hiring preference for eligible military spouses can be used multiple times for "flexi-

ble" status positions. You do not lose eligibility until you are placed in a regular full or part-time position (NAF or Appropriated Funds).

• There is a hiring preference in NAF for involuntarily separated military members and their eligible Family members.

• Current NAF employees who have worked one continuous year in a position without time limits are eligible to be considered for Civil Service (GS/WG) jobs the same as APF employees who transfer to Army.

• Youth at least 16 years of age can be employed year round in certain NAF positions where conditions and duties meet all criteria of Federal and state child labor laws.

• NAF offers a Management Trainee Program that is targeted to annually hire up to 20 recent college graduates who have bachelor's degrees in certain MWR specialties. Applications are accepted on a continuing basis and will be used to fill Management Trainee Program vacancies as necessary. Go to www.armymwr.biz and click on Programs for more information.

Fallen Soldier awarded citizenship

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Sgt. Dayne Dhanoolal, who was killed by an improvised explosive device during a route clearing operation east of Baghdad in March, was awarded citizenship into the United States during a ceremony at the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment's headquarters, May 28.

Dhanoolal's wife, Kynesha, was present to accept a plaque from Denise Frazier, the district director of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigrations Services, on her late husband's behalf.

Sgt. Dhanoolal, who was originally from Trinidad, had been working diligently to become a U.S. citizen before and during his deployment, explained his wife. Even though he was not present to personally receive his citizenship, she believes that the ceremony was still meaningful.

"It was really important," she said. "This is something my husband had been working on for a while. It takes a long time to get your citizenship, and I'm glad that it's finally happening. It's bitter-sweet that it is happening like this, but it's long overdue. He died for his country so I believe it's something that had to happen."

Lt. Col. Troy Perry, the commander of the 2/69 Armor Regt., spoke before the ceremony and explained the type of person and Soldier Dhanoolal was.

"He had this broad, infectious smile, so every time he was around he made everybody in the room lighten up," he explained.

"He made everybody smile, which tells you a lot about his personality and the way that he was. He was a

very jovial guy and everybody liked to have him around, but he was also a very serious professional. He was very good at what he did with the engineers, and specifically on route clearance."

Capt. Stewart Bailey, Dhanoolal's company commander in Company E, 2/69 Armor Regt. is glad that his Soldier finally received the citizenship he had worked so hard to attain. In his mind, Dhanoolal more than earned it in service to his fellow Soldiers and his country.

"He did everything you could ask of an American," said Bailey. "He came to Iraq, he volunteered to serve in a very dangerous position as a Husky driver for Echo Company, and he consistently helped clear some of the most dangerous streets in

Baghdad. He was truly an amazing Soldier and an amazing person. He will truly be missed by everyone that knew him."

Frazier was honored to be able to present Sgt. Dhanoolal's wife with her husband's citizenship plaque.

"It is important that we recognize the bravery and sacrifice of this individual," she said.

"What better way to recognize that than to give him our ultimate honor as a nation, citizenship? We are trying to reach out to military bases and start helping Soldier's like Sgt. Dhanoolal get their citizenship before they deploy in our nation's defense. We are putting these heroes on a different track and are making them priority by helping speed the process along."



Spc. Ben Hutto

Col. Wayne W. Grigsby, Jr., the commander of the 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div., congratulates the wife of the late Sgt. Dayne Dhanoolal, Kynesha, following a ceremony that granted her late husband his U.S. citizenship at the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment's Headquarters on Fort Benning, Ga., May 28. Dhanoolal, who was killed by an improvised explosive device during a route clearing operation east of Baghdad in March, had worked diligently before his death to become a citizen of the U.S.

FINANCE ————— from Page 1A

Ramsey stated that his office provides these Soldiers just about the same service the main finance office at the Soldier Service Center offers. They process pay inquiries, tackle finance issues and prepare Soldier's packets either transitioning to the civilian world or moving to another duty station.

"We assist in so many financial activities in our office. Not only do we assist in the preparation of travel vouchers for Family members, but we make sure that Soldiers' military pay accounts are updated in a timely matter and are accurate," Ramey said. "Any pay and allowances that a Soldier is due, we make

sure that they receive it."

The WTB finance office has a staff of three to include Ramsey. They interact with Soldiers on a day to day basis and they take care of their pay issues.

Finance helps make life a little easier while letting these Soldiers focus on getting the medical treatment and attention they need.

This finance office is one of the many services provided particularly for Warriors in Transition at the Soldier and Family Activity Center. And since its official opening in January, the SFAC and its services has proven to be a vital entity to the care and lives of Warriors in Transition.

COLORS ————— from Page 1A

Following the colors uncasing, the new 3rd Inf. Div. headquarters building will be dedicated in honor of Lt. Col. Keith L. Ware. Ware earned the Medal of Honor while serving with the 3rd Inf. Div.'s 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, near Sigolsheim, France, Dec. 26, 1944. In March 1968, Ware went on to serve as the commanding general of 1st Infantry Division. He was shot down while observing and commanding his units from a helicopter near Loc Ninh on Sept. 12, 1968. Ware was the first Army general officer to die in combat in the Vietnam War.

COMPETITION ————— from Page 1A

Various installation organizations have rallied behind the contest with support ranging from the Directorate of Public Works providing billets, Directorate of Emergency Services performing traffic control for the road march and APFT; to Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, USAG performing combat lifesaver, driver and range control duties.

The contest will prove to be professionally executed with NCOs from the NCO Academy lending a helping hand to administer the AFPT and weigh in; prepare and conduct stations for Common Task Training events, and various other missions.

24th Ordnance gets hero's welcome

Kaytrina Curtis
Public Affairs Specialist

Although rain clouds were evident, humidity was high and temperatures reached the mid-eighties outside, nothing stopped many Families and friends from gathering to greet their loved ones at an aviation hanger on Hunter Army Airfield May 23, during a welcome home ceremony.

Friends and Family members waited anxiously as eighty-six Soldiers from the 24th Ordnance Company proudly marched through the hanger's doors, after a 15-month tour to Afghanistan. Other Soldiers with the company are currently deployed to Iraq.

Family member Shonda Hinton expressed the delight she feels for her husband and his accomplishments as the 24th Ordnance's company commander.

"I am happy to have my husband back, have their dad back, and to have some help," she said.

The 24th Ordnance Company was the key

piece in managing, planning, and establishing three ammunition supply points throughout Afghanistan supporting the 10th Mountain Division, the 82nd Airborne Division, and most recently, the 101st Airborne Division. Within two days into theatre, 24th Ord. was called to provide seven Soldiers to provide security and surveillance at the Bagram Airfield Entry Control Point after it was compromised by a suicide bomber. The Soldiers provided security for more than 120 days straight.

"We spread out the whole company and supported three different divisions, sometimes simultaneously," said Capt. Kurt Hinton, 24th Ordnance commander.

The 24th continued to provide security support for an additional three months continually improving security measures and efficient means for maximum amount of local national trucks, with necessary classes of supply, to rotate within the forward operating base.

The company has supported fuel escort

missions, tower guard and a movement control team mission. The mission control team, stationed at Jalalabad, supported over 4,500 Soldiers and civilians from two different brigades from 10th Mountain and 82nd Airborne. The 24th's team served in areas such as fixed and rotary wing and provided support in the construction of a remote motor pool adjacent to the operations center.

During their deployment, the 24th accomplished many missions including the ability to retain more Soldiers than any other company assigned to their home station battalion. The 24th re-enlisted over one hundred sixty-five percent of each of their mission requirements for initial, mid careerist and career Soldiers within two months.

Now with feet firmly back

on American soil Kurt looked lovingly at his wife and exclaimed, "A breath of fresh air," was his sentiment when he first laid eyes on her. "The last physical thought that I had of her was a video teleconference we had in December," he said. "But I mean, it doesn't even compare to what I see right now."

The Hinton's immediate plans as a Family is to stay home, watch movies, rest and eat dad's lasagna.



Kaytrina Curtis

Family member Shonda Hinton is all smiles as she greets her husband Capt. Kurt Hinton, 24th Ordnance Company commander, May 23 during a welcome home ceremony at a hanger on Hunter Army Airfield.

Left: Friends and Family members wait eagerly in a hangar for Soldiers from the 24th Ordnance Co. to return from Afghanistan, May 23.

July college graduation announced

Special to the Frontline

July 24 will be a momentous day for the area's adult graduates as Fort Stewart-Hunter hosts an all college commencement.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. at the installation's Main Post Chapel, building 500. July 11 is the deadline to confirm your participation.

College graduates or soon to be graduates who are within six semester hours of completing requirements, who have completed your college degree in 2007 or 2008 are encouraged to participate.

Even if graduates do not participate, the education center would like to list you in the graduation brochure. The center requests any military, adult Family members, retirees, and civilian or contract employees attending on-post schools such as Central Texas College, Columbia, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Savannah Tech and Webster University, to contact your college.

For those attending off-post schools, we ask you to complete the electronic Candidate for Graduation Form online at www.stewart.army.mil under the services, education link. Forms are also available at your education center. This submission is important because it allows the center to know who will actually walk down the aisle in front of their Family and friends.

Forms are also available at your education center. If you have submitted the form you should have received a memorandum with instructions. The memo below contains important information for graduates. June 13 is the last day to order cap and gowns, otherwise "rush shipping" will be at the graduate's expense.

To all who have graduated, congratulations on earning your

college degree. You are encouraged to participate and to invite your Family, friends, and colleagues to share this momentous occasion.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander, Col. Todd A. Buchs, will deliver the commencement address. There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony for you and your guests.

This is a joint commencement for graduates of our on-post colleges, local colleges and college programs made available through the Servicemembers Opportunity College Army Degree program.

Attire for the ceremony will be the traditional cap and gown for all graduates and may be purchased from your college. If your college is located elsewhere, cap, gowns and tassels will be available from Columbia College; \$20 per set, last day to order is June 13th, please call 877-3406 for more information.

Please confirm your plans to attend with your local college no later than July 11. If you are a graduate of a SOCAD college not located on Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield, please contact the Army Education Center at 767-8331 to confirm.

All graduates are to report to Main Post Chapel at 5 p.m. for pictures. If you wish to purchase individual or group graduation photographs, you may do so with the photographer the night of graduation. After the group photo session, graduates will be assembled for the commencement exercise.

This auspicious occasion serves as recognition for the determination, perseverance and sacrifices made by you in pursuit of your educational goal. Again, congratulations, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Editors note: Information provided by Pam King, Pamela H. King, Education Services Officer.

USAMC reenlists Soldiers



Sgt. Jason Stadel

General Benjamin Griffin, U.S. Army Materiel Command commanding general, reenlists three Soldiers from the 26th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., May 23. Specialist Israel Quattlebaum (left) reenlisted for six years and will reclassify as a radiology specialist; Spc. Juan Delacerda, a petroleum supply specialist, reenlisted and will move to Fort Bliss, Texas; and Spc. Zunailly Edwards, also a petroleum supply specialist, reenlisted for four years and will be reassigned to Germany.

FORSCOM lauds Stewart-Hunter deployment process

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

Forces Command's Deployment Cycle Support representative, Anthony Williams, lauded Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield garrison command and the 3rd Infantry Division as a team that really cares about its Soldiers.

"This installation is a team – Soldiers, Family members and community," said Williams, following a May 28-29 site visit. "The partnership I see between Garrison and Division is unlike anything I've seen at any other installation."

Williams said he was very impressed with the cooperation that takes place between Garrison and Division regarding reintegration training. He also praised what he described as unusual coordination between Stewart and Hunter. That coordination and cooperation has resulted in several "best practices" he will carry back with him to FORSCOM and report his recommendations. Some of the areas where he said Stewart-Hunter should be commended include:

- DCS is being executed by all commanders, and everyone – down to the lowest ranking Soldier – is aware of reintegration training requirements.
- Rear detachment commanders have all taken the class conducted by Army Community Services, specifically for rear detachment commanders.
- Stewart-Hunter is the only installation where DCS training

documents are being collected and turned in when reintegration training is complete.

- Family Readiness Groups include Soldiers, which fills in communication gaps.
- Family members are able to track flight returns with ease and accuracy by calling their FRG or visiting the Fort Stewart Web site, www.stewart.army.mil.

Williams explained that the major components of DCS are education, assessment and processing, which are concurrently conducted in seven, in-depth stages: Train-up / Preparation; Mobilization (Reserve and National Guard); Deployment; Employment; Redeployment; Post-Deployment; and Reconstitution.

The purpose of Williams' site visit was three-fold: observe the DCS process, Soldier Readiness Processing/Reverse Soldier Readiness Processing and Rear Detachment Operations; conduct focus groups with Soldiers, Family members, Department of the Army civilians and rear detachment commanders; and capture lessons learned that may be included in future DCS updates and shared with other Army units and installations or used to support other initiatives.

The DCS directive was published in 2007 after five years of studying and reviewing the effects of stress caused by extended deployments, focusing on problem areas such as medical evacuations, individual Soldier issues, Reserve/National Guard mobilization and DA civilians/contractors.

Maj. Ryan Dickerson, 3rd Infantry Division G-3, suggested that he'd like to see DCS standardized within FORSCOM, to include Reserve and National Guard units deploying with FORSCOM units. Bess Stone, Army Community Services, recommended standard operating procedures for rear detachment commands that would include sufficient notification of commanders and maintaining the same rear detachment commanders throughout deployment. Other recommendations include more reintegration training prior to redeployment, avoiding redundant information and follow-up training after block leave.

Williams admitted some of the Soldiers he spoke with during his focus group meetings had expressed concern about required reintegration training classes for issues not pertaining to them, like motorcycle safety for non-motorcycle riders. Other Soldiers voiced a perception that some units were getting a longer pass than others upon redeployment, but Williams said the length of passes depends on the day of the week the unit returns.

He stressed that communication is what distinguishes Stewart-Hunter from other installations. One spouse he talked with praised communication between rear detachment and the main body in theater, the FRG and Families. That communication, he added, is what enables Stewart-Hunter Soldiers, Family members and the community to work together as a team.

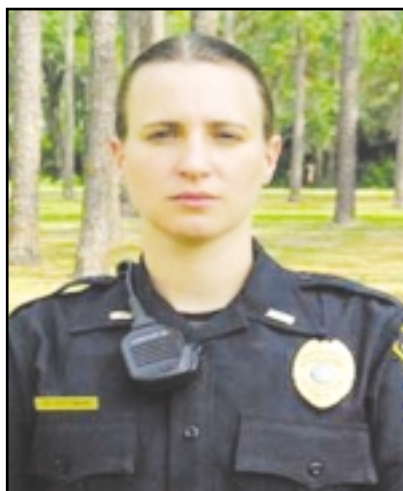
DES Spotlight

Director of Emergency Services

Special to the Frontline

Dorothea Dittmar is a native of Pennsylvania. She served eight years in the military as a military police officer. While serving in the military, she performed a variety of duties such as gate guard, patrolman, desk sergeant, investigations and arms room noncommissioned officer in charge.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the military in 2005, she remained in Hinesville and began her employment at Fort Stewart with the Directorate of Emergency Services as a Department of the Army police officer. Dittmar came to this



Dorothea Dittmar

organization with a vast amount of training and experience due to her prior service with the Army. In 2006, Dittmar began working as a patrol supervisor and in 2007 was placed in charge of the Fort Stewart police desk operations.

Dittmar is proud to continue protecting and serving the Fort Stewart community.

The Fort Stewart police can be contacted at 767-4895 or the Hunter Army Airfield

police desk at 315-6133. If you have an emergency, you can call 911.

Legal Notice

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Mary Jane Jaenichen**, Co. E 2-3 BTB, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 2nd Lt. Christine Pearl, 2-3 BTB, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 269-330-3631.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. Adam S. Daniel**, Warrior Transition Battalion, Co. B., Wach, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 2nd Lt. Tyson Evans, Warrior Transition Battalion, S-4, Wach, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-980-8829.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. William Elliott Allmon**, Co. E, 1st Battalion, 64th

Armor, 2BCT, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 2nd Lt. James Turner, S-3, 2BCT, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-7661.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. 1st Class Edeze Louis**, 24th Financial Management Company, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 1st Lt. Bryan French, 24th Financial Management Company, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-5527.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **Sgt. 1st Class Jason F. Dene**, Headquarters Company, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. John Meixell, Rear-Detachment, 1/64 Armor Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, at 912-767-7728.

Directorate of Logistics awarded for excellence

Lina Satele

Public Affairs Specialist

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Directorate of Logistics and installation transportation have been awarded with the Army Chief of Staff 2008 Deployment Excellence Award.

The competition included all active Army, Reserve, and National Guard units or installations. Criteria for the competition mandated the participating units must have executed or supported training or contingency deployment during the competition year.

"It was a tremendous mission," said Royce Kennedy, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Director of Logistics. "Division Transportation and DOL assumes and oversees command and control during deployment processing. We have some great Americans that made this happen. It takes a lot of dedication."

The DOL and DOT submitted their packets and were rated from March-May 2007. During this time period, they deployed the 4th Brigade Combat Team to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. and also deployed the 2nd Brigade Combat Team and the Combat Aviation Brigade to Iraq. They moved more than 15,000 Soldiers, over 5,000 pieces of equipment and coordinated more than 170 flights.

"We have an installation one-stop deployment support shop and the installation is totally involved in that," said Rita Johanson, installation transportation officer.

"It's a team effort by everyone. It's a sense of accomplishment of being

recognized for all the efforts of all the people that supported this mission. Our goal is taking care of Soldiers."

Johanson added that it took a lot of teamwork from many directorates to get the job done to include the deployment operations section of installation transportation, their motor pool deployment operations section, personal property and travel section.

In addition to these sections, elements from the DOL maintenance division, who provided contact maintenance repair for equipment and Medical Activity ambulance support both provided services at the Rail Marshalling Area and at the ports.

The Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization also worked with them tasking support personnel at the Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group Facility. Managers and airfield personnel and the Directorate of Emergency Services were responsible for escorting personnel between the RMA, ports, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

"The award is great, but one of the biggest things is doing our job effectively for the Soldiers," Kennedy said.

"We try to take as much off of the Soldiers and their commanders to allow them to focus on other missions and to spend time with their Families before they deploy."

Kennedy and Johanson are in Washington D.C. as representatives to accept the award.

Editor's note: Information in this article was also provided by Telli Cronin.

Fort Stewart /Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Army Birthday Ball slated

The 2008 U.S. Army Birthday Ball will celebrate America's Army, The Strength of The Nation and our 233 years of service. This year's U.S. Army Birthday Ball will be held at the Washington D.C. Convention Center, June 14. Visit the AKO Army Birthday Ball registration page for more information.

Military Family Life Consultants available

Free and confidential counseling is now available in your community. The assistance is every Friday, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Ludowici at the Long County Senior Center, 15 Thornton Drive; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. each Friday in Pembroke at the Pembroke Senior Center, 24 W. Bacon Street; 1 to 3 p.m. each Thursday in Glennville at the Glennville Welcome Center, 136 S. Main Street; 1 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. each Monday in Richmond Hill at the Richmond Hill Public Library, Highway 144; and in Hinesville by appointment. For appointment information, call Military and Family Life Consultants at 230-8425.

Cookbook now available

On sale now! HHSC, Special Troops Battalion is selling copies of their newly published cookbook, "Taste of Freedom." These three ring binder cookbooks contain over 200 recipes contributed by friends and Family of HHSC Soldiers and are priced at \$15 each. There are a limited number of copies available, so order one today by contacting Catherine at 368-1149, *Catherine.agosta@us.army.mil* or Amy at 877-2278, *amos.johnson1@us.army.mil*.

"Taste of Freedom" would make a great welcome gift, birthday present, teacher or caregiver appreciation present, or get your holiday shopping done early and pick up one or two for Christmas gifts.

Stewart

Burger King closes

The Burger King drive thru and dining room is closed now through June 30 for renovations.

Red Cross summer program kicks off

The American Red Cross Summer Youth Program will begin today and end July 21. The program is open to youth 14 to 17 years old who are interested in providing volunteer service to

the community through the hospital and other Fort Stewart agencies. Applications can be picked up at the Red Cross Office in the Audie Murphy Soldier Support Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekdays. Call 767-5086, for more information.

Special Forces briefings held

Briefings are held noon, 2 and 5 p.m., every Wednesday at Special Forces recruiting office, building 160, Garry Owen St. or at Hunter Army Airfield every Tuesday, noon and 1 p.m. at the Hunter Education center, room 25. Physical Training tests are given 7 a.m. every Friday at Donovan Parade Field. Uniform is Army Combat Uniform and running shoes. For more information, call 767-1400.

Summer trip to Nantahala offered

The MWR youth center is participating in a youth camp at the Nantahala outdoor center in the vicinity of Bryson City, North Carolina Sunday through June 13. The driver will depart fort Stewart for Nantahala Outdoor Center, N.C. with the Fort Stewart Youth Center personnel no later than 7 a.m., June 8 and returns June 13. This is a great opportunity for a Soldier who enjoys outdoor adventure such as hiking, ropes challenge courses, white water rafting, kayaking and mountain biking. experience is not required but is highly recommended if interested in the conducting the activities. All meals (three meals per day) will be provided for the Soldier, except for any meals in transit between Stewart and Camp June 8 and 13.

Hunter

Play in the HAAF GC Golf Scramble

Visit Hunter Golf Club 8 a.m., June 13 for an shotgun start. The entry fee is \$40 members and \$45 non-members. Only the first 25 four-person teams will be accepted. Participation is open to all players. Interested participants should register no later than June 11. For more information, call 315-9115.

Treat Your Dad to Brunch

Visit Club Stewart and Hunter Club 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., June 15 for Father's Day Sunday Brunch. The menu will feature famous breakfast items, omelet station, carving station with pecan crusted pork loin with peach glaze, barbeque chicken and ribs, baked beans, corn on the cob, and more. The cost is

\$14.95 per person, children (ages 5-10) half price and under 5 is free. Bring church bulletin and receive \$1 off each meal. For more info call 353-7923 or 368-2212.

PWOC classes, meetings slated

Classes are available for children, ages three and older, including adult Bible study and RCIA classes, 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in the Religious Education building. Call Pam Perez at 315-5440 for more information. Protestant Women of the Chapel meets every Thursday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. For more information, call Valarie Moore at 920-8519.

Locate a Soldier through AKO

The DHR, Official Mail and Distribution Center no longer provides Post Locator Service to customers. This Service was discontinued back in 2003. To locate a Soldier, use AKO White Pages, or you must write to: Commander, U.S. Army Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center; ATTN: Locator; 8899 East 56th Street; Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN 46249-5301; 1-866-771-6357.

Locator service is free to immediate Family members and government officials. Others must pay \$3.50. The check or money order must be made out to the U.S. Treasury and is not refundable. Include as much information as possible.

Hunter changes gate hours

The Directorate of Emergency Services announced Hunter gate hours change, to include Rio Gate going to 24-hour operation, Wilson Gate from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Montgomery Gate remains open 24-hours.

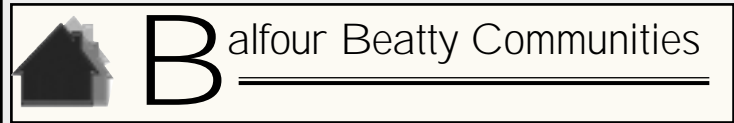
Storage space available

Outdoor Recreation has storage space available for boats, RVs and trailers. For more information, call 315-9554.

Register for golf championship

Sign up now for the championship, scheduled Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 a.m. at Hunter Golf Club. Divisions are ladies, open and senior divisions. Cost is \$60 for club members; \$70 for active duty and retired military; \$80 for civilian guests.

The Entry fee includes tournament and golf car fee, prizes and lunch.



Yard of the Month contest slated

Make your house a home by taking pride in your yard. We will be selecting four winners who have excelled in keeping their yards neat and have made them stand out among the rest. Winners will receive a \$25 American Express Gift Check. So, get out your rakes and shovels and make sure you water your flowers! And if you don't win this month, there's always next month! The June winners will be selected and notified by June 19 and 20 respectively for Stewart and Hunter.

Stewart

Join huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with Balfour Beatty Communities. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live. The dates are June 11 for Marne Woods; June 16 for Bryan Village North; and June 18 for Bryan Village South.

The time for each huddle is 10:30 to 11 a.m. The locations are at the playground at intersection of Victory Division and Mindoro Loop for Marne Terrace; the playground on corner of Davis St. and Hero Rd. for Marne Homes; the playground between St. Tropez and Fedala

(Marne Woods; the playground across from Brittin Elementary for Bryan Village North; and the playground across from Brittin Elementary for Bryan Village South.

Attend a house clearing seminar

Moving out soon and have some questions? Come to this information forum to get all the information you need on how to make clearing housing as quick and easy as possible. The event is 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., June 9 at the Southern Oaks Community Center.

Father's Day craft activity slated

Let dad know how special he is 3 to 4 p.m., June 12 at Southern Oaks Community Center by making him a Father's Day card and craft to show you care.

Take Landscaping 101

Want to learn some tips on how to make your yard a show piece in your neighborhood? A professional landscaping contractor will be there to share his expertise on simple ways to enhance your yard 3 to 4 p.m., June 18 at Southern Oaks Community Center. Participants will have the opportunity to enter a raffle drawing for some beautiful plants to help get them started!

Hunter

Neighborhood Huddles slated

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with Balfour Beatty Communities.

Help make your neighborhood a great place to live. The huddles are scheduled June 13 for New Savannah; and June 20 for New Callaway.

The huddles are 10:30 to 11 a.m. Locations are the leasing office for the Wilson Acres and New Gannam, and New Savannah / New Call Community Center.

Attend a house clearing seminar

Moving out soon and have some questions? Come to this information forum 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Friday at the BBC leasing office, to get all the information you need on how to make clearing housing as quick and easy as possible.

Father's Day craft activity scheduled

Let dad know how special he is by making him a Father's Day card and craft to show you care, 4 to 5 p.m., June 10 at the New Savannah / New Callaway Community Center.

Summer party scheduled

Come start your summer off right with Balfour Beatty Communities. Beat the heat in the spray park with water guns, water balloons and more!

Papa John's Pizza will be co-sponsoring the event with pizza for everyone! The event will be 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 17 at the BBC leasing office.

\$3,000 REWARD

(0318-07-CID093-11068)

A reward of \$3,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for an assault upon two Soldiers at Rocky's Night Club, Fort Stewart, which occurred on the evening of Oct. 20, 2007.

Anyone having knowledge of the incident but not wishing to be identified will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confidentiality.

Those with information concerning this matter are encouraged to call the U.S. Army CID office located at Fort Stewart, Ga. at 767-4411.

For more information, call Special Agent Kim, or the Military Police Desk, Fort Stewart, Ga., 767-5030.

REWARD OFFER EXPIRES Oct. 27, 2008

Protestant Women of the — Chapel (PWOC) —

Invites all ladies to a summer session of Bible study, 10 a.m. to noon, each Wednesday, June 25 through July 30 at Marne Chapel. You are welcome to join in at any time and child care is available on site. For more information, please call 317-460-7096.



Sgt. Tanya Polk

From left: Chap. (Lt. Col.) Allen Stahl, Lt. Col. Michael Hurst, First Sergeant Raphel Maddox, Master Sgt. Richard Moss, Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Bush and Marilyn Mancuso were honored at a retirement ceremony held at Club Stewart, May 29.

Soldiers, Army civilian collectively serve more than 140 years

Sgt. Tanya Polk

Editor

Soldiers, friends and Family members of Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield gathered at Club Stewart, May 29 to honor and recognize five Soldiers and one Army civilian who each dedicated at least 20 years to the U.S. Army.

"Today we share a great, life-long memory with these Soldiers and Army civilian as they retire, who collectively represent all that is good about our Army," said Col. Todd Buchs, Stewart-Hunter garrison commander. "Together, they have served our nation for more than 140 years, and that's a tremendous accomplishment."

"These men and women have served as a team, through long deployments and have made tremendous sacrifices," Buchs continued. He thanked the retirees and their Family members for their support and service.

The following are this month's retirees.

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Allen Stahl

Stahl's last assignment was as the Garrison Chaplain. He joined the Army in January 1987 as a chaplain. During his 20-year career, Stahl served with the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment, 2/60 Inf., 4/52 Inf., the Combat Support Hospital at Fort Campbell, and an engineer brigade in Korea. He said his fondest memory was being in Berlin, Germany when the wall came down. His future plans are to move to Colorado Springs, Colo.

Lt. Col. Michael Hurst

Hurst's last assignment was a field historian for the 3rd Infantry Division. He joined the Army in May 1979 as a field

artilleryman. During his 29-year career, he served with the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Still, Okla.; 1/68 FA, Germany; Headquarters and Headquarters Battery 6/29 FA; 8th Infantry Division; 42nd FA Brigade; V Corps; U.S. Army Europe; Headquarters, 7th Army Command; and the 3rd Infantry Division. Hurst served in both Operation Iraqi Freedom I and V. He said his fondest memory was serving with V Corps during the invasion of Iraq. His future plans include working as a contractor in Stuttgart, Germany.

First Sergeant Raphel Maddox

Maddox's last assignment was the senior Equal Opportunity advisor for U.S. Army Central Command. He joined the Army in July 1988 as a human resource specialist. During his 20 year career, he served with the 10th Mountain Division, 18th Airborne Corps, V Corps, a drill sergeant at Fort Jackson, 24th Infantry Division, and as a 1st sergeant with USARCENT. He has deployed to Kuwait. He said his fondest memory was serving as a drill sergeant. His future plans include working in Waycross, Ga.

Master Sgt. Richard Moss

Moss' last assignment was the operations sergeant and rear-detachment sergeant major for the 293rd Military Police Company. He joined the Army in January 1987 as a military police officer. During his 21-year career he served with the 55th MP Company in Korea; The United States Military Academy, Military Police at West Point; 1/64th MP Company, Alaska; 2nd MP Company in Korea; Fort Jackson MPs and the 89th MP Brigade. Moss said his fondest memory was working with the secret service in 2004 to pull security for a presidential visit at

West Point. His future plans are to work as a Department of Defense civilian at Fort Stewart and then move to South Carolina to counsel troubled teenagers.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Bush

Bush's last assignment was the assistant operations sergeant for 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. He joined the Army in February 1987 as an air defense artilleryman. During his 21-year career, he served with the 24th Infantry Division, 3rd Infantry Division, 1st Armored Division, and the 2nd Infantry Division. He deployed to OIF I and III. He said his fondest memory was serving with the 3rd Inf. Div. on both deployments. His future plans are to stay in the area, attend college, spend time with his Family.

Marilyn Mancuso

Mancuso is retiring from the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation where she served as a librarian for Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield. She entered the service in December 1976 as a reference librarian. During her 32-year career, she served in Wurzburg and Heidelberg, Germany; Fort Jackson, S.C.; Fort Drum, N.Y. and Fort Stewart. She said her fondest memory was the dedication of the George P. Hays Library at Fort Stewart. Her future plan is to spend time with her husband, Bob.

"Today we enjoy freedoms as a society- but those freedoms weren't (always) free," said Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general through a recorded message from Iraq. "You sacrificed and your Families sacrificed to ensure we have the freedoms that we enjoy today."

MEDEVAC unit trains Coalition forces on procedures

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills
3rd CAB Public Affairs

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq – Problems that arise during aero-medical evacuation missions can seriously endanger the life of a patient.

With that in mind, Company C, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, a National Guard MEDEVAC company from Bangor, Maine, currently deployed to Tallil Airbase, has been training units on MEDEVAC procedures to ensure the safety of patients they transport.

“Training like this is vital whether it be in a war zone or back home on (annual training),” said 1st Lt. Karl Chandler, forward support medical team leader, Co. C, 1/126th Avn. Regt. “Anyone, from Coalition forces to civilian (emergency medical technicians) and law enforcement personnel can benefit from our MEDEVAC 101 curriculum.”

The training teaches everything from calling in MEDEVAC support, to selecting, preparing, marking and securing the landing zone for helicopters

“They get the basics on our real estate requirements for one or two birds to land safely,” Chandler said.

The training also covers litter loading and movement procedures.

“The course doesn’t focus on medical procedures but how to load and carry a litter patient [and] how to approach aircraft,” said Chandler, from Old Town, Maine.

The training covers safe and danger areas, how to move around the aircraft, leading a litter team, how a litter is loaded onto a carousel in the aircraft, aircraft configurations, litter exchange procedures and medical resupply.

In early May, Company C Soldiers trained members of the Kazakhstan army at Forward Operating Base Delta, Iraq.

Staff Sgt. Justin Anderson, a flight medic with Co. C, 1/126th Avn. Regt., said the Kazakhstani soldiers were eager to learn.

“It went really well; they were really receptive,” said Anderson, from Troy, Maine.

Anderson said they ran the Kazakhstani soldiers through “dry runs,” loading and unloading litters with the helicopter shut down, before starting the aircraft and going through the drills again.

“They were really excited to learn,” said Spc. Timothy McClary, Company C flight medic.

Working around the running aircraft adds a flavor of reality to the drills, said Spc. Timothy McClary, Company C flight medic.

“They’re used to the noise, learning with the blades turning,” said McClary, a native of Belgrade, Maine.

Adapting to the distractions of a running helicopter helps the



Courtesy photo

Staff Sergeant Justin Anderson (left rear), Co. C, 1/26th Avn. Regt. flight medic, works with Kazakhstan army soldiers during a litter loading training at FOB Delta, May 5.

ground forces slow down and get the procedure right the first time, rather than panic and make mistakes that could ultimately slow down the process.

Anderson believes this training will benefit all parties involved during future MEDEVAC missions.

“The more the guys on the ground know what we expect, the easier it is to execute the mission,” he said.

Chandler recommends any ground force commander, U.S. or Coalition, schedule this type of training with their local MEDEVAC.

“Any flight medic and his or her crew can run someone through this block of training,” Chandler said. “It will give the ground Soldier more confidence in knowing how we can help them in their time of need.”

703rd Soldiers support their supporters in Iraq

Capt. Constance Quinlan
4th BCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – This past February, the Maintainers of the 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, initiated Operation Maintain the Home Front, a letter-writing campaign from Soldiers to their hometown newspapers.

“I wanted to provide an opportunity for 703rd BSB Soldiers to thank the American people for all the love and support they give to us,” said Lt. Col. John Chadbourne, 703rd BSB, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, commander.

Throughout the past few months, Soldiers from the battalion’s four main companies have written more than 400 letters to their hometown newspapers.

Ranging from a few sentences to full pages, these letters have been sent to more than 200 newspapers throughout the country, from small-town weekly newsletters to several national publications.

“We’ve had an awesome response to the program,” Chadbourne said. “(More than) 90 percent of our Soldiers have volunteered to write letters to their hometowns.”

Soldiers began receiving feedback almost immediately from loved ones back home who had spotted the letters. Overhearing a Soldier call out, “My letter was published!” has become a common occurrence in the battalion.

One such Soldier was the battalion chaplain himself, Capt. Shannon Philio. A native of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Philio wrote home to the “Sun Herald” where a

fellow service member took notice and was moved to send care packages to battalion Soldiers.

Other newspapers have taken interest by requesting further contact with their hometown heroes, and in several cases, sending complimentary editions of the published letters to local family members.

“The Coloradoan” of Fort Collins, Colo., was one such publication. Its editor sent five copies of the newspaper to the family of 1st Lt. Allis Gilbert, Company C Treatment Platoon leader and head of the FOB Kalsu aid station.

“My family was very excited to read my letter,” Gilbert said. “It sparked conversations among their friends about what it means to support the troops. There are many people who support myself and my

unit who have never met us and only want to show their support. I feel (like) telling those who are generous, caring and supportive, ‘thank you.’ It is the least I can do. Many people go out of their way to support those they do not know, and my family has experienced the generosity of the average American.”

The movement was inspired by Task Force Marne’s Operation Thank You, aimed to thank the American people for its support of Soldiers during the holiday season while keeping them engaged in the accomplishments of deployed men and women.

Each of the battalion’s four main companies recently received an Operation Maintain the Home Front streamer to acknowledge their overwhelming contributions to the program.

Military Police Battalion welcomes new commander

Sgt. Tanya Polk
Editor

Soldiers from the 385th Military Police Battalion welcomed aboard a new commander at a Change of Command ceremony here held at Marne Garden, May 29.

Lt. Col. Donna W. Martin- who led the 385th into combat operations in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom- relinquished command to Lt. Col. Michael C. Henshaw with the passing of the Colors during the ceremony.

"The passing of the Colors signifies a change in leadership, but the responsibilities and missions of the unit remain the same," said Col. John F. Garrity, reviewing officer for the ceremony and commander of the 16th Military Police Brigade (Airborne) based out of Fort Bragg, N.C. "(Martin) has set the bar high for the officers, noncommissioned officers and Soldiers of the 385th MP Battalion."

Martin's next assignment is the 3rd Infantry Division's Inspector General here at Fort Stewart.

"I will miss the camaraderie that we share; it goes without saying that I will also miss those characters that brightened my life while I've been here," she said, adding that she will always hold up the Soldiers of the 385th Battalion as examples of the Army's best.

Garrity described the 385th Change in Command as a turning point for the battalion and welcomed Henshaw and his Family to the battalion he calls a "loving and caring Family of warriors who prove themselves time and time again."

"You are now in command," Garrity said to Henshaw. "I know you're ready, and I am confident in your ability to lead these fine warriors on the field of battle and here at home."

Henshaw, the former chief of the Antiterrorism and Force Protection Operations Branch, U.S. Pacific Command based out of Camp Smith, Hawaii, expressed his gratitude toward the Soldiers and Family members of the 385th MP Battalion and thanked them for their continuing service to the U.S. Army.

"I fully realize that each of you has a choice," Henshaw said, "the choice to be here in service to your nation or somewhere else- perhaps a place less demanding. The fact that you have chosen to be a part of your Army speaks volumes about your patriotism, dedication and desire to serve your



Sgt. Tanya Polk

Lt. Col. Michael C. Henshaw, new commander for the 385th MP Battalion, thanks Soldiers and Families for their service to the Army during the 385th's Change of Command ceremony held at Marne Garden, May 29.

nation and in doing so pay something back for the many blessings we all receive as American citizens."

Henshaw holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster, National Defense Service Medal with One Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia medal with Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, and Air Assault Badge.

The 385th Military Police Battalion is comprised of five

companies: Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 385th; 139th Military Police Company; 293rd Military Police Company; 546th Military Police Company; and 549th Military Police Company who is currently deployed to Afghanistan in support of OEF. Additionally, the battalion's make-up includes a rear-detachment unit.

military education includes Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training, Military Police Officer Basic Course, the Military Police Advance Course, the Combined Arms Service Staff School, the Army Command and General Staff College, the Joint and Combined Warfighting School, U.S. Army Ranger School, Airborne School, and Air Assault School.